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Security Council

LETTER DATED 4 MARCH 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALI TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to make reference to the dispute between the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Pursuant to the decision of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) [illegible] the dispute [illegible], the Group of African States in New York convened on 4 March 1998 to review the position of ICJ, especially within the framework of the decision taken by the Council of Ministers [illegible] Organization of African Unity (OAU) at its sixty-sixth ordinary session, which took place from 23 to 27 February 1998 in Addis Ababa.

The decision of OAU, inter alia, endorsed the recommendations of the Committee of Five on the dispute and decided to increase its intercessions with the Security Council.

At the end of the meeting referred to above, the Group of African States requested me, in my capacity as the Chairman of the month of the Group, to establish contact with you to plead with you to use your good offices to have the Security Council hold a public debate on the dispute between the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the United States and the United Kingdom, before the Security Council holds its session to review sanctions against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

It is indeed the wish of the Group of African States to see the sanctions against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya either suspended until the dispute is finally settled, or lifted altogether.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Moctar OUANE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Mali to the United Nations
Chairman of the African Group

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